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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO
10/099,954	03/19/2002	Kazuhisa Mori	500.41483X00	6337
20457 7	590 01/28/2004		EXAMINER	
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP 1300 NORTH SEVENTEENTH STREET			LAXTON, GARY L	
SUITE 1800 ARLINGTON, VA 22209-9889			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2838	***
			DATE MAILED: 01/28/2004	. *

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Office Action Commence	10/099,954	MORI ET AL.				
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	Gary L. Laxton	2838				
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply						
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). Status	36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be time within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from cause the application to become ABANDONE	nely filed s will be considered timely. the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).				
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 No.	<u>ovember 2003</u> .					
2a)⊠ This action is FINAL . 2b)□ This	action is non-final.					
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.						
Disposition of Claims						
4) ⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-20</u> is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw 5) ⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-15 and 18-20</u> is/are allowed. 6) ⊠ Claim(s) <u>16 and 17</u> is/are rejected. 7) □ Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) □ Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	vn from consideration.					
Application Papers						
9) The specification is objected to by the Examine 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accomplicated any not request that any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examine	epted or b) objected to by the liderawing(s) be held in abeyance. See ion is required if the drawing(s) is object.	e 37 CFR 1.85(a). jected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).				
Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120						
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents 2. Certified copies of the priority documents 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority application from the International Bureau * See the attached detailed Office action for a list 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domesti since a specific reference was included in the first 37 CFR 1.78. a) The translation of the foreign language pro 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domesti reference was included in the first sentence of the	s have been received. s have been received in Application of the certified copies not received or priority under 35 U.S.C. § 1190 of the certified copies not received to priority under 35 U.S.C. § 1200 or the certified copies not received to priority under 35 U.S.C. § 1200 or the priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 1200 or the prior	ion No ed in this National Stage ed. e) (to a provisional application) r in an Application Data Sheet. ceived. and/or 121 since a specific				
Attachment(s)	_					
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s)	5) Notice of Informal F	(PTO-413) Paper No(s) Patent Application (PTO-152)				

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 11/06/03 concerning claim 16 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In regards to claim 16, applicant argues that Koichi does not disclose that the control signal line crosses in the vicinity of an end of an area of said main circuit wiring where said main circuit current flows. The examiner respectively disagrees, Koichi does disclose the control signal line crosses in the vicinity of an end of an area of the main circuit wiring (see figure 7: control line 14).

In regards to claim 17, applicant argues that Koichi does not disclose the effect of the main circuit current on the control signal line is relaxed and a malfunction of the semiconductor switching device can be prevented. Koichi teaches that the circuit operates to prevent the influence of the gate signal by the main circuit (see the purpose and constitution of Koichi page 1 of the reference). Therefore, Koichi is teaching that the effect of the main circuit current on the control signal line is relaxed or not influenced by the main circuit and a malfunction of the semiconductor switching device can therefore, be prevented.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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3. Claims 16 and 17 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Koichi (JP7170723).

Concerning claims 16 and 18, Koichi discloses a power converter comprising: a semiconductor circuit including a semiconductor switching device(figures 1-7: 1 or 2) having a main terminal and a control terminal; a main circuit wiring (4, 5, 6) including a plurality of tabular conductors arranged at least in partially superposed relation to each other (4, 5, 6) the main circuit current of the semiconductor circuit flowing in the main circuit wiring; and a control signal line (14), that crosses in the vicinity of an end of an area of the main circuit wiring, for supplying a control signal to the control terminal of the semiconductor switching device; wherein the control signal line (14) crosses an end of an area of the main circuit wiring where the main circuit current flows and the plurality of said tabular conductors are in superposed relation to each other (figure 2 or 7), between the side of the main circuit wiring (4, 5, 6) where the semiconductor switching device (1 or 2) is located and the opposite side of the main circuit wiring (figure 2 or 7). Koichi discloses that the effect of the main circuit current on the control signal line is relaxed or not influenced by the main circuit and a malfunction of the semiconductor switching device can therefore, be prevented (see the purpose and constitution of Koichi page 1 of the reference).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-15 and 18-20 are allowed.

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5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Concerning claims 1-11, 13 and 14; the reasons for allowance where stated in the previous office action dated 7/11/2003.

Concerning claims 12, 15 and 18-20; prior art fails to disclose or suggest, inter alia, a power converter wherein a respective junction between each of a first and second control signal lines and the circuit portion of a semiconductor circuit is covered by selected one of an area of a main circuit wiring where a main circuit current flows and a plurality of tabular conductors are in superposed relation to each other and an area of the main circuit wiring where the main circuit current does not flow.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Gary L. Laxton whose telephone number is (703) 305-

7039. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Michael Sherry can be reached on (703)308-1680. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-

0956.

MICHAEL SHERRY

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

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Gary L. Laxton Patent Examiner

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